(b) if so, whether any plan has been formulated to meet the likely demand and to upgrade the telecom. services in India;

(c) if so, the broad features thereof and the capital outlay involved;

(d) how it is proposed to raise funds;

(e) whether global players in telecom industry have asked for more transporency in telecom policy; and

(f) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The revised targets for the 8th Five Year Plan as per National Telecom Policy 1994 envisage provision of telephone connections on demand and phone facility in all the villages by 1997. Plans are being formulated to upgrade the telecom services accordingly. As per the objectives of 8th Five Year Plan 7.5 million telephone connections were planned to be added in the country for which the requirement of funds was assessed as Rs. 40,555 crores. However, under National Telecom Policy 1994, the targets have been revised to provide additional 2.5 million telephone connections. Additional requirement of funds for meeting the revised targets is about Rs. 23,000 crores.

(d) Most of the funds required by DOT for the 8th Five Year Plan programme are proposed to be provided by way of Internal Resource Generation. Additional requirement is proposed to be met by way of bonds, leasing and deferred payment. For additional 2.5 million lines, private sector is envisaged to supplement the DOT's efforts.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The required clarifications are being issued.

Poor orders from DOT to ITI, Bangalore

4518. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Telephone Industries Limited, Bangalore (ITI) has been hit badly by the new telecom policy and poor orders from the Department of Telecommunications (DOT);

(b) if so, what avenues this Company, once holding its premier position in the Indian Telecom scene, is now exploring to retain its advanced technology to provide the state-of-art equipment for satellite communications; and

(c) whether the DOT will ensure that with the opening of the Telecom sector to the Multinationals since last year, the ITI will conutinue to get sizeable orders to maintain itself and retain its premier position in the Indian telecom market and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) ITI is facing certain problems which are due to several factors but mainly due to greater competition and general fall in prices of the telecom equipment.

(b) ITI is exploring new avenues in respect of:

(i) software business

(ii) information technology

(iii) value added service

(iv) installation and maintenance of telecom equipment.

(v) Development of new products like Pair Gain Systems, Wireless Local Loop (WILL), Digital Cross Connect etc.

ITI is also introducing latest technologies for manufacturing state-of-the-art Digital Electronic Switching equipment, Switching Mode Power Supply equipment and Fibre Optic equipment etc. in collaboration with foreign partners. In the area of satellite communication equipment, ITI has a programme of manufacturing MCPC VSATs, C/KU Band Earth Station, Long Distance Satellite Telephone terminals for remote areas etc.

(c) Securing adequate orders in a competitive environment is the basic responsibility of the ITI's management. However, with a view to optimally utilise the capacity of its own PSEs viz. ITI and HTL, as also to keep these PSEs commercially viable, DOT is following a policy under which 30 to 35 per cent of DOT's orders for the items manufactured by these companies are kept reserved for them. However, no concession/preference is given in respect of price, quality and supply schedule.

टेलीफोन कनेक्शनों के लिए लक्ष्य

4519. **श्री अजीत जोगी** : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :—

(क) क्या वर्ष 1994–95 के दौरान प्रदान किए जाने वाले टेलीफोन कनेक्शनों का निर्धारित लक्ष्य वर्ष 1993–94 के लिए निर्धारित किए गए लक्ष्यों से कम है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है, और

(ग) पिछले वर्ष के लिए राज्य-वार क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किए गए थे, और किस सीमा तक उक्त लक्ष्य-पूर्ति हुई है ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम) : (क) जी नहीं । 1994–95 के लिए 14.26 लाख टेलीफोन प्रदान करने का लक्ष्य था जबकि 1993–94 में 11.12 लाख का लक्ष्य था ।

(ख) उपर्युक्त भाग (क) के उत्तर को ध्यान में रखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) 1993–94 तथा 1994–95 के लिए निर्धारित राज्य-वार लक्ष्यों और उपलब्धियों का ब्यौरा संलग्न विवरण में दिया गया है ।